

City of Covington

2014-2015 Legislative Agenda

Adopted by the City Council 11/12/13



The City of Covington will actively lobby the following issues:

- **Joint Legislative Agenda:** The cities of Black Diamond, Covington, and Maple Valley will continue to advocate jointly for federal and state funding for State Route 169 and State Route 516 improvements and for transit alternatives in the three rapidly growing communities.
- **State-Shared Revenues:** Retain/reinstate state-shared revenues including liquor revenue and the Public Works Assistance Account.
- **Project-Specific Funding Requests:** Retain/enhance/seek funding for the following projects, in priority order:
 1. SR 516, Jenkins Creek to 185th Avenue SE
 2. Higher education needs assessment
 3. Park Safety and ADA Renovations
- **Transportation Investment Package:** Strongly support adoption of a transportation investment package that funds SR 516, distributes gas tax revenue to cities and counties, and authorizes King County to impose a 1.5% motor vehicle excise tax (MVET) for roads and transit.
- **Infrastructure Funding:** Support increased funding for cities' infrastructure design and construction needs, including but not limited to the surface transportation program (MAP-21) and Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) at the federal level; and the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF), street utility concept, and transportation-package discussions at the state level.
- **Special Purpose Districts:** Oppose transfer of city authority for land use, building code, and right-of-way administration to special purpose districts.

The City of Covington will support efforts by others to lobby the following issues:

- **Economic Development Funding:** Support constitutional amendments and/or legislation to create pure tax increment financing. Support funding for the Local Infrastructure Financing Tool (LIFT) and Local Revitalization Financing (LRF) programs. Support efforts to make LIFT and LRF simpler, more flexible, and user-friendlier.
- **Unfunded Mandates:** Oppose unfunded and under-funded mandates on local government. Support funding for existing mandates including comprehensive plan updates and National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements.
- **Rail:** Support Auburn's efforts to secure an Amtrak stop, and support other parties' rail advocacy efforts when helpful to Southeast King County's rail and transit advocacy efforts.
- **AWC & SCA Legislative Programs:** Support the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) and Suburban Cities Association (SCA) legislative programs. Support other local government professional associations' legislative programs when consistent with the aforementioned programs.¹

¹ In event of conflict, the order of precedence is 1) Covington, 2) SCA, 3) AWC, 4) others